



- **Administration:**

- Welcome to our new District Manager, Dr. Natasha Agramonte. She commenced her new role on September 21st, 2026. She will undergo training on her new responsibilities until the end of October, at which point I, Mario Boisvert, will step down from my position. Dr. Agramonte has already met with employees to gain a comprehensive understanding of their various roles. Dr. Agramonte is learning quickly, and I have full confidence in leaving the role to her.

- **Operations**

- I have worked on the 2027 Budget, which will be presented at the Board Meeting scheduled for October 13th, 2026. New items approved by the Board at the previous meeting on August 11th have been incorporated into the budget. These items, including an increased volume of product and helicopter time for both refuges, the addition of one new GO-4 (for a total of two), and the updated information regarding Dr. Agramonte's salary and family status, affect the final amount of the proposed budget.
- Most of our seasonal employees completed their last day of work on September 11th. A few seasonal employees will remain until mid-October to complete field and laboratory work.
- Our catch basins team performed exceptionally well, treating over 205,000 catch basins, setting a new record for our organization. We completed three comprehensive treatment rounds with product rotation and conducted a fourth round in more densely populated areas to conclude the season. We will follow up on the recently treated catch basins (4th round) in early October to ensure the products remain effective and that larvae are under control, then we will conclude treating for the rest of the year. We commend our catch basin team for this outstanding achievement. The team for next year will have a significantly high standard to uphold.
- Our first-year trial with the City of Vancouver Community Gardens will end at the end of October. We placed signs with educational messaging about how best to protect yourself and others from mosquitoes while gardening in the Marshall Community Garden. Each sign also contains a QR code to our CCMCD website. We are planning to conduct a survey with the gardeners to gather their feedback on this initial experience. Their comments will help us make adjustments for the next season and evaluate whether we will expand the program to more gardens.
- We are approaching the end of the season for most of our mosquito species, and the weekly trap counts reflect a natural decrease in their populations. Some adult females from various species will enter diapause during the winter, finding shelter in attics, rabbit burrows, and similar locations, and will resume their activity next spring if they survive the winter.

- Due to difficulties encountered during our resistance bioassays in early August to assess the *Bacillus sphaericus* active ingredient, we conducted a second bioassay in September. The mortality in our control larvae was very low this time, allowing us to confidently compare results with our test larvae (susceptible and wild strains). We are currently in the process of analyzing and interpreting the data.
- We are planning to dispose of five jugs of DeltaGard, an adulticide, totaling 12.5 gallons. The product was purchased five years ago but has rarely been used due to its high viscosity, which adversely affects our foggers (clogging lines, difficult to clean, etc.). The Washington State Department of Agriculture offers a program that accepts this product at no cost. We will reach out to them to obtain further details regarding the disposal process.
- Our annual permit with the National Wildlife Refuges will expire at the end of September. Once again this year, we successfully gathered valuable data by sampling various areas and placing traps at both refuges (Ridgefield and Steigerwald Lake). While we await further details regarding their Integrated Mosquito Management program, which may enable us to treat additional areas in the future, we plan to renew our annual permit in 2027 to continue data collection throughout the mosquito season.
- Two of our employees (Field Supervisors, Fred Bartow and Mark Newman) will attend the Northwest Mosquito and Vector Control Association in Penticton, BC, Canada at the end of October. It is always a good opportunity to meet with colleagues and learn more about new products.

- **Lab**

- On August 25th, 2026, in Multnomah County, a mosquito identified as *Aedes notoscriptus* was trapped in the port and industrial area of North Portland. That was the first time that species was trapped in the Pacific Northwest. This species is primarily found in Australia and New Zealand and was detected in the Los Angeles region in 2014, where it has since become established and spread to neighboring districts. It shares similar habitat preferences and feeding behavior with *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. Additionally, it is a competent vector for various diseases. We are conducting enhanced adult mosquito trapping at the Port of Vancouver (just across the river from where it was found in Oregon) to monitor the potential presence of this invasive species in Clark County. To date, we have not captured any specimens.
- James Barton, our student seasonal employee, worked this summer collecting larval specimens at various locations throughout the county for our project investigating the presence of *Culex pipiens* variants. Previous results were inconclusive, prompting us to design a more robust and structured project this summer. In addition, James contributed in the laboratory by identifying adult mosquitoes from our traps, setting traps in community gardens and along the northern County route, and reviewing and correcting data from previous years using our VeeMac software.

- As planned in our 2026 budget, we have procured a new Ford F-150 for our laboratory operations. The old lab truck experienced some suspension issues over the years due to the load in its rear. The F-150 is equipped with an improved suspension system capable of handling the weight and regular off-road conditions it will encounter. The existing vehicle will remain in our possession and will serve as a secondary vehicle for mosquito surveillance as needed, while continuing regular operational use due to its towing capacity (for Argos and quads) and overall size.
- As of September 25th, 2026, 116 mosquito pools in Washington state have tested positive for WNV. Additionally, eight crows, three horses, and four human cases have tested positive for WNV. This is so far one of the worst years for West Nile virus cases in Washington state. All positive results were reported in counties east of the Cascades.
- As of September 25th, 2026, we have tested 1,120 mosquito pools in Clark County, and all have negative results. With a statewide total of 2,367 pools tested in Washington, our efforts account for approximately 47% of all pools.
- Anya den Dulk and Madeline Lueck, two of our seasonal employees in the lab, will work until at least mid-October to help our Lab Supervisor finalize our trapping season.